

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 2, 2009

**Administrative Director Declares Illinois Associate Judge
Appointed in the Sixteenth Judicial Circuit**

Cynthia Y. Cobbs, Director of the Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts, announced today that the Sixteenth Judicial Circuit judges voted to select Melissa S. Barnhart as an associate judge of the Sixteenth Judicial Circuit.

Ms. Barnhart received her undergraduate degree in 1982 from Illinois State University, Normal, Illinois, and her Juris Doctor in 1986 from The John Marshall Law School, Chicago, Illinois. Ms. Barnhart had been affiliated with Pilmer & Barnhart in Yorkville, Illinois.